



TOWN OF VERNON

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MINUTES

Senior Center Advisory and Design Committee

Administration, Third Floor, Memorial Building

14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut

June 6, 2017

Members attending: Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and Town Council Members: Deputy Mayor Steve Wakefield and Virginia Gingras, Staff: Robert Kleinhans, Director DPW and Senior Center Director Maureen Gabriele. Senior Center Advisory Member: Carol Slattery. Also present: Robert Hurd and Dirian Lira-Huerta, The Architects and Leslie Campolongo, Recording Secretary Pro-Tem.

Mayor Champagne opened the meeting with an introduction of Mr. Hurd and Mr. Lira-Huerta of The Architects. Mr. Hurd provided a brief background on the firm, and described project experience conducted by The Architects.

Mayor Champagne shared that Town staff and members of the Senior Center Advisory and Design Committee visited the Enfield Senior Center to meet with the Director and to view the facility. The group returned to the site of the new Senior Center to observe building layout in preparation for architectural renderings and for activity-planning purposes. It was noted that the Enfield Senior Center is approximately 20,000 sq. ft. and the new Senior Center is approximately 14,000 sq. ft.

Mr. Kleinhans provided a "draft" rendering layout of the building interior with suggested placement of key activities that will take place at the Senior Center. Discussion took place regarding permanent "Fixed Rooms" where one activity will take place, (such as a potential exercise area, medical area, a pool table, and kitchen) and "Multi-Use Rooms" where the room is used for a multitude of purposes. It was noted that space will prohibit some of the suggested activities, and discussion took place regarding the potential for area Centers to host regionalized programs that would be opened to members of other Senior Centers.

Membership: Discussion took place regarding the daily number of attendees at the current center. Mayor Champagne suggested Director Gabriele look at current membership list to cull members who are no longer attending, along with daily activity sign-in sheets. Further discussion took place regarding a potential policy change on membership fees and identification badges for the Senior Center.

Activities: Mr. Hurd queried the group as to a list of current programs taking place at the center. Mr. Wakefield provided a previously prepared Program list.

State Licensing: Ms. Gabriele will check with Enfield regarding any licensing which may be required for activities conducted at the new Senior Center.

Facility Layout Recommendations:

- **Staff Office Space:** Ms. Gabriele pointed out that in addition to staff office space, areas will be needed for the copier, storage of decorations and games, cleaning supplies and a small staff lounge. Mayor Champagne indicated basement could be used for storage, but will not be used for any activities, or public traffic.
- **Automatic Doors:** Mr. Hurd recommended that automatic doors be installed at main entrances to buildings.
- **Dining Area:** Discussion took place regarding the location and best use of the space preliminarily suggested as a dining area. It was noted that Enfield has 25 tables seating approximately 125 people. Enfield's main dining area is 1080 sq. ft. with an additional 540 sq. ft. of secondary space available.
- **Fitness Area:** Attendees use Enfield's fitness area regularly with demand growing. It was recommended that ample space be planned/allotted between equipment.
- **Health Care/Medical Area:** Vernon's estimate for health care services is approximately 145 people. It was suggested that larger programs might use the Stage/Great Room area, should overflow space be needed.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2017 at 11:15 AM.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Mr. Wakefield and seconded by Mrs. Slattery. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie S. Campolongo
Recording Secretary Pro-Tem